

Nicholas (Class) Veeder House
104-106 Front Street
Schenectady
Schenectady County
New York

HABS No. NY-3261

HABS
NY,
47 SCHE,
25-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. NY-3281

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47-25-

NICHOLAS (CLAAS) VEEDER HOUSE

Address: 104-106 Front Street, Schenectady, Schenectady
County, New York.

Present Owner: Miss Katherine C. Weast.

Present Occupants: #104, Katherine C. Weast
#106, Mrs. Brandhorst

Present Use: Two-family residence.

Brief Statement
of Significance: An 18th-century house with interesting architectural
features.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Original and subsequent owners: Nicholas Veeder, before 1789; John C. Veeder (son), 1807; Andrew N. Van Patten, prior to 1826; John McMichael, prior to 1849; H.V.V. Clute, 1849; Maria Clute (wife); Jeremiah DeGraaf (heir); Selona L. Stanton (daughter), 1896; Miss Katherine C. Weast, present owner.

B. Date of erection: By 1789.

C. Notes on alterations and additions: The eastern portion is the original part; the western portion was added at an undetermined early date. The house was divided into two dwelling units around the middle of the 19th century.

D. Sources of information: Historic Buildings in Downtown Schenectady, booklet (Schenectady: Committee on Historic Markers, Schenectady County Historical Society, 1961), p. 6.

Prepared by John A. Miller
Schenectady, New York
AND Harley J. McKee, Architect
National Park Service
September 1962.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural character: A late 18th-century house of characteristic Dutch heavy-timber frame construction.

2. Condition of fabric: Good.

B Technical Description of Exterior

1. Over-all dimensions: About 48' frontage. Two-and-a-half stories, rectangular, with additions on rear.

2. Foundations: Low, stone.

3. Wall construction: Heavy hewn and pegged timber frame, members 5'-0" on centers. Clapboards, 4-3/4" exposure, painted. Corner boards.

4. Chimneys: One at each end of original portion, one rather centrally located in rear addition.

5. Openings:

a. Doorways: Entrance: wide recessed entrance way with antae and three-part entablature with dentils. In this are two doorways with molded pilasters, two-part entablature and transom. This entrance is not original.

b. Windows and shutters: six over six lights, double hung; louvered shutters. Narrow architrave trim.

6. Roof:

a. Shape, covering: Gable; covered with sheet metal. Rear portion has lean-to roof. Framed with heavy hewn rafters, 5'-0" on centers, lapped, morticed and pinned at ridge. No ridge pole. Ties morticed to rafters with dovetail.

b. Cornice: Wood cornice across front. Box gutter.

C. Technical Description of Interior

1. Floor plans: Originally central hall, one main room each side; now divided down center into two side-hall plans.

2. Stairways: Altered.

3. Flooring: Largely covered in modern times. Some areas retain old boards 9-1/2"-13" wide.

4. Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster, papered. Split lath. (Some years ago, repairs to second floor ceiling revealed "expanded" wood lath, corn cob insulation filling).

5. Doors: Generally four-panel; some six panel; one to attic has raised and fielded panels; some old board and batten doors.

6. Trim: Wood architrave trim. Wood molded base.

7. Hardware: Iron latches.

8. Heating: Fireplaces.

D. Site

1. General setting and orientation: Faces north; irregular lot. Narrow side yards. Front is near sidewalk.

2. Outbuildings: Former slave house (see separate report-HABS #NY-3280).

Prepared by Harley J. McKee, Architect
National Park Service
September 1962.